

**MINUTES OF THE
JOINT PUBLIC EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2008, 2:00 P.M.
Capitol Room 445, State Capitol Complex**

Members Present: Sen. Howard A. Stephenson, Co-Chair
 Rep. Bradley G. Last, Co-Chair
 Sen. Lyle W. Hillyard
 Sen. Patricia W. Jones
 Sen. Kevin T. Van Tassell
 Rep. Tim M. Cosgrove
 Rep. Brad L. Dee
 Rep. Lorie D. Fowlke
 Rep. Gregory H. Hughes
 Rep. Karen W. Morgan
 Rep. Phil Riesen
 Rep. Aaron Tilton
 Rep. Carl Wimmer

Members Absent: Rep. Gage Froerer
 Rep. Ronda Rudd Menlove

Staff Present: Ben Leishman, Legislative Fiscal Analyst
 Cherie Schmidt, Secretary

Public Speakers Present: Velma Itamura, Science Specialist, USOE
 Joseph Andrade, Utah Science Center Director
 Paul Mayus, Jordan School District Science Coordinator
 Vickie Ahlstrom, 6th Grade Teacher, Alpine School District
 Renee Amicucci, Director of Engineering, ATK Launch Systems
 Leah Zumbrunnen, Outreach Manager, Discovery Gateway
 Julianne Grant representing John Hill, VP Human Resources at L-3
 Communications
 Mark Henschneid, Executive Director, Chem. and Biological Defense
 Battelle
 Larry Madden, Science Curriculum Supervisor, Salt Lake County
 School District and SL Center Science Education
 Madelyn Rumberg, Spokesperson, iSEE
 Rep. Bigelow
 Larry Shumway, Deputy Superintendent, USOE
 Marlies Burns, Director, State Charter School Board
 Sharyl Smith, Retired Educator
 Wayne Pay, Emeritus Librarian, Utah Academic Library Consortium
 Barbara Smith, Member of the Davis School Board

Sen. Hillyard
Christine Kearn, Educator Director for Governor Huntsman
Rep. Newbold
Rep. Sandstrom
Sen. Van Tassell
Duke Mossman, Executive Director for the Northeastern Utah
Educational Services
Superintendent Thorne
Co-Chair Stephenson, Speaking in behalf of Sen. Madsen

A list of visitors and a copy of handouts are filed with the Subcommittee minutes.

Co-Chair Last called the meeting to order at 2:25 p.m.

1. **Unfinished Business from January 31, 2008** - There was no unfinished business from the January 31, 2008, meeting.
2. **Analyst Presentation - Science Outreach** - Ben Leishman, Legislative Fiscal Analyst, presented the Budget Brief - Science Outreach. The Science Education Outreach Program assists Utah's science core curriculum in the public schools. Professional organizations match state revenues to support and enhance the delivery of science education through demonstrations, presentations, and educational activities in the public schools. Schools receive services through three programs: the Informal Science Education Enhancement (iSEE), a Request for Proposal (RFP), and a Science Enhancement Program. Total program funding in FY 2009 totals \$1,689,400. Funding is split among the three operating programs with the greatest portion supporting the iSEE Program. The State Board of Education requests additional funding for the iSEE Program so it can add an additional outreach provider in FY 2009. Mr. Leishman indicated that this is similar to the Arts POPS Program where it is an ongoing funding program for those who are participating. Each organization participates on an equalized manner throughout the school system scheduling a presentation in every district over a three-year period. The State Board has approved the Utah Science Center to come into the iSEE Program and requests \$220,000 in ongoing Uniform School Funds. The Analyst recommends that the Legislature prioritize \$220,000 in ongoing Uniform School Funds to support the Utah Science Center's move to the iSEE Program.
3. **Utah Science Center Presentation** - Velma Itamura, Science Specialist, USOE, introduced Joseph Andrade, Utah Science Center Director. Mr. Andrade spoke on the Leonardo on Wheels -Science Program as a traveling program operating from a 25-foot trailer that goes throughout the entire state. It features hands-on exhibits that support

Utah State Office of Education 7th-9th grade curriculum. All exhibits are designed to foster critical thinking, personal and business relevance, and the scientific process. The program also includes a *My Leonardo Notebook*, which allows students to record their experiences through words, data, and artwork. Julianne Grant representing John Hill, VP Human Resources at L-3 Communications; Mark Henschneid, Executive Director, Chem. and Biological Defense Battelle; and Larry Madden, Science Curriculum Supervisor, Salt Lake County School District and SL Center Science Education, addressed the Subcommittee, and all gave their support for this program. The Building Block Request includes the following:

- Increase from 20 to up to 30 visits per year
- Develop 5 additional exhibits per year
- Expand the My Leonardo Notebooks
- Enhance online components
- Improve pre- and post-visit activities

Co-Chair Stephenson asked this group plus all the iSEE groups to present at the Interim Meeting in the summer a proposal on how schools are selected based on their commitment to ensure the highest quality of pre- and post-work. Rep. Morgan brought some letters that had been written by some children in support of the iSEE Program.

4. **iSEE Presentation** - Velma Itamura, Science Specialist, USOE, introduced Madelyn Rumberg, spokesperson for the iSEE Groups and who represents the Living Plant Aquarium. Ms. Rumberg gave an update on the progress of the iSEE Groups. She stated that year after year, iSEE organizations have increased the depth and breadth of their programs through continual assessment and evaluation. Through regular collaboration, iSEE organizations have been able to coordinate program scheduling to ensure every elementary school in the state receives at least one program every year. Additionally, as a direct result of additional Enhancement Funding received during the 2006 Legislative Session, iSEE organizations increased the number of students served each year by 32 percent. Another update Ms. Rumberg spoke on is the progress of the Teacher Resource Pilot Program (TRPP). She indicated that last spring and summer a 12-member Teacher Advisory Committee made up of classroom teachers and district science coordinators from across the state was organized. They have been reviewing resource kits and lesson plans. They are also preparing now for a workshop. Teachers will be required to attend a three-hour workshop and complete followup assessment. The appropriation request is for \$220,000 in ongoing funding plus an additional \$180,000 ongoing funding which will help each organization offset the increased delivery cost of the programs to ensure the programs will be able to maintain the current level of service as well as a 10 percent increase in growth. There is also a request for \$200,000 in one-time money aimed at reaching teachers with the Teacher Resource Pilot Program. Paul Mayus, Jordan School

District Science Coordinator, Vickie Ahlstrom, 6th Grade Teacher, Alpine School District, and Renee Amicucci, Director of Engineering, ATK Launch Systems all gave their support for the iSEE Program. Leah Zumbrunnen, Outreach Manager, Discovery Gateway, explained an experiment that was displayed for the Subcommittee members.

6. **Use of COGNOS Software** - A live demo was given on the COGNOS Software. It was stated that the USOE has standardized on the COGNOS software for all its accountability reporting.
7. **Fiscal Notes Bills** - Rep. Bigelow presented H.B. 278 Charter School Funding Amendments. This bill modifies provisions related to the funding of Charter Schools.

Rep. Bigelow also presented H. B. 270 Utah Science Technology & Research Initiative. This bill creates an optional grant program to provide an extended year for math and 11 science teachers through the creation of Utah Science Technology and Research 12 Initiative (USTAR) Centers. This bill appropriates as an ongoing appropriation subject to future budget constraints \$11,000,000 from the Uniform School Fund for fiscal year 2008-09 to the State Board of Education.

Rep. Bigelow also presented K-3 Instructional Materials. He stated that currently USOE provides some materials online to teachers. Rep. Bigelow would like to expand that to K-3 so that a teacher would have access from the State Office Website to all materials that they might need in order to teach their classes.

8. **Analyst Budget Presentation - Federal Funds** - Ben Leishman, Legislative Fiscal Analyst, presented the Issue Brief - Federal Funds. Statute requires the Legislative Fiscal Analyst to submit a federal funds request summary to each appropriations subcommittee pursuant to the agencies under their purview.
9. **Analyst Budget Presentation - Charter Schools** - Mr. Leishman also referred to the Budget Brief - State Charter School Board. During the 2007 General Session, the Legislature created an administrative cost program for charter schools. The creation of this program removed charter schools from the WPU driven Administrative Costs Program in the Minimum School Program. The Charter School - Administrative Costs Program provided \$62 per student enrolled in a charter school in FY 2008. At a total cost of \$1.5 million, the Legislature funded the Administrative Costs Program with 50 percent ongoing and 50 percent one-time Uniform School Funds. H. B. 1 "Minimum School Program Base Budget Amendments" (2008 General Session) includes the ongoing Uniform School Funds appropriated in FY 2008. However, the one-time funds were not included in the base budget and the per-student funds were not included in the base budget. The per-student allocation was reduced to \$31 to balance the ongoing funds

appropriated in the bill. The Analyst recommends that the Subcommittee prioritize an additional \$898,566 in ongoing Uniform School Funds to provide an additional \$31/student enrolled in charter schools to provide for school level administrative costs.

Mr. Leishman provided information on the Issue Brief - Local Replacement Formula. During the 2006 General Session, the Public Education Appropriations Subcommittee adopted a new formula to adjust the per-student rate to better reflect district per-student revenues. However, this new formula was not adopted by the Legislature. The new formula provides for a per-student LRF rate of \$1,617, an increase of \$376 over the current statutory rate of \$1,241. To provide the new rate for FY 2009 anticipated charter school enrollment of 28,986, an additional \$10.0 million is required over the ongoing base budget. The Analyst recommends that the Subcommittee prioritize the \$10.9 million ongoing Uniform School Funds to provide the new per-student LRF rate in FY 2009.

10. **Agency Comment & Recommendations** - Larry Shumway, Deputy Superintendent, USOE, addressed the Subcommittee member and introduced Marlies Burns the State Charter Schools Director. Clarification was given concerning the State Charter School Board.
11. **Public Comment** - There were no public comments.
12. **Requests for Appropriations** - Sharyl Smith, a retired educator; Wayne Pay, Emeritus Librarian, Utah Academic Library Consortium; and Barbara Smith, a member of the Davis School Board spoke in behalf of Teacher Librarians. This is a Teacher Librarian Phase-in Grant Program for 50 teacher-librarians to be hired full time in 50 schools on 50 percent matching bases between the districts and the state. The appropriation request is for \$1.7 million per year for three years. The funding will be used for training, personnel, and assessment.

Sen. Hillyard presented Public Education Administrators. In the Governor's Budget, he has asked for \$500,000 for administrative salaries. The idea behind this request is to give a \$25,000 bonus to 20 principals in schools across the state as an incentive to encourage them to stay in their school. Sen. Hillyard stated that this is a request for \$400,000–\$20,000 for 20 principals in school and \$100,000 for those teachers who receive an administrative certificate as part of their advancement. They would receive a \$5,000 reimbursement at the completion of this training. After three years as a principal, they would also receive a \$5,000 incentive to stay in the program. Christine Kearl, Educator Director for Governor Huntsman, also spoke in behalf of this incentive.

Rep. Newbold addressed the Subcommittee members concerning the Carson Smith Special Needs Scholarships. She requested that the funding be an ongoing appropriation.

Rep. Sandstrom presented and spoke in behalf of a Public Education Testing Specialist. This proposed bill provides money for school testing specialists to allow teachers to have more time for instruction.

Sen. Van Tassell presented information concerning Utah's Regional Service Centers - Providing Equity for Rural Utah. The funding request for FY 2009 is an ongoing request of \$83,340 to provide a 4 percent cost of living increase for the 16 FTEs in the service center base budget and to provide a 10 percent increase to cover health insurance increases. There is also a request for one-time funding of \$50,000 to upgrade video conferencing codecs in the Regional Service Centers. UEN has upgraded their video conferencing system leaving the current video conferencing codecs in the centers obsolete. UEN's video conferencing system is essential for the centers to host collaboration meetings with administrators and teachers in remote areas of the state and across their region. UEN's video conferencing system saves a tremendous amount of valuable time and transportation revenues. Duke Mossman, Executive Director for the Northeastern Utah Educational Services, and Superintendent Thorne gave some clarification of this request.

Co-Chair Stephenson speaking in behalf of Sen. Madsen presented a request for the American Board Certified Teachers Compensation. This represents S.B. 91. This bill creates a grant program to minimize the expenses of teachers to obtain the American Board Distinguished Teacher certification and to provide additional compensation to teachers who obtain that certification. This bill appropriates: as an ongoing appropriation for fiscal year 2008-09, \$275,000 to the State Board of Education.

13. **Other Committee Business** - Co-Chair Last gave some instructions for the February 6, 2008, Subcommittee meeting.

14. **Adjourn** -

MOTION: Rep. Cosgrove moved to adjourn the meeting.

Co-Chair Last adjourned the meeting at 4:58 p.m.

Minutes were reported by Cherie Schmidt, Secretary

Sen. Howard Stephenson, Co-Chair

Rep. Bradley G. Last, Co-Chair